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601 S. Jefferson Street, Suite 110, Roanoke, VA 24011

Frank M. Smith, II, President & CEO

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July 26, 2021

Tamarah Holmes, Ph.D Director
Office of Broadband
Department of Housing and Community Development 600 East
Main Street, Ste 300
Richmond, VA 23219

Dear Dr. Holmes:

I am providing this VATI Application Notice to notify the Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development of **Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority in cooperation with the Counties of Franklin and Roanoke, and the Town of Boones Mill** may submit an application for the FY2022 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative (VATI).

Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority in cooperation with the Counties of Franklin and Roanoke, and the Town of Boones Mill intends to submit an application for a fiber optic transport and last mile project starting approximately 5 miles to the west (Merriman Road Area) from the intersection of state route 220 and Buck Mountain Road in the County of Roanoke continuing into Franklin County and the Town of Boones Mill for the purposes of supporting the local community with mission critical telecommunications backbone infrastructure and last mile connectivity. The project will provide an essential optical transport backbone and last mile connectivity for citizens in support of Universal Service. This is a true multi-jurisdictional project that will service the community for many years to come.

Ms. Tywanii Ross will be our main point of contact for the purposes of the application process, and can be reached at:

**601 South Jefferson Street,
Suite 110
Roanoke, VA 24011
540.204.9341
tross@highspeedroanoke.net**

The Roanoke Valley Broadband Authority understands that this VATI Application Notice is required in order to submit an application for the 2022 Virginia Telecommunication Initiative and that this notice is not binding on the entity represented by the undersigned, Virginia Department of Housing and Community Development.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank M. Smith II", is written over a horizontal line.

Frank M. Smith II
President & CEO
Roanoke Valley
Broadband Authority